Pittsburgh Gazette.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 22.

CITY AFFAIRS.

THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS for the *Gazette*, by G. E. Shaw, Optician, 55 Fifth street,—corrected daily:

	IN SUN	IN SHADE.
9 o'clock, A. M.	80	67
12 " M.	88	75
6 " P. M.	00	76
Barometer,		29 5-10

The Oil Business--Decrease in Production.

The Oil City *Register*, for the present week, contains a complete list of the various wells on Oil Creek, the great centre of the oil trade, of which the following is a recapitulation:

Number of wells now flowing	75
Number of wells that formerly flowed and pumped	62
Number of wells sunk and commenced	358
Total	495
Amount of oil shipped	1,000,000 bbls.
Amount on hand to date	92,450 "
Present amount of daily flow	5,717 "
Average value of the oil at $1 per bbl	$1,092,000 00
Average cost of wells $1000 each	495,000 00
Machinery, buildings, &c., from $500 to $7,000 each	500,000 00
Total number of refineries	25

The *Register* says: "The detailed report of the condition of the wells shows that production is on the decrease. Operators do not seem very anxious to sell at previous prices, and we have heard of some who have contracts at prices above the present market rates, that would be glad if they could get rid of their contracts. All who can do so, are applying the stop cock to their wells, awaiting a more remunerative price. There is no necessity of selling the present stock in the different markets at a sacrifice, as has been done, for the reason that the same amount cannot be again supplied in anything like the same time. At a fair price that would justify operators in sinking new wells, we believe a sufficient amount could be produced to supply the demand, but it cannot be done at the present amount of flow, which is fast decreasing. Holders are firm at 50 cents per bbl. at the wells, and don't seem to care about selling any great quantity at that price."

"The following is the amount of oil, received and shipped from our different warehouses for the week ending May 13th, 1862: Mich. Rock Oil Co.—Received 1,358 bbls. oil; shipped 2,648 bbls.; received 731 empty barrels. Abram's, Orr & Co.—Received 885 bbls. oil; shipped 929 bbls. Cochran & Co. —Received 318 bbls. oil.

That "Singular Marriage."

Editors Gazette:—In your issue of yesterday morning, my name appears in connexion with "A Singular Marriage." The article was evidently written when the writer was "pheeling phunny," and hence, would only elicit a smile from me were it not for a certain positive statement, which, if founded on fact, would show me to be more ignorant of the discipline of the Church than I would feel disposed to admit. *I did not, at any time, accept the proposal of Mr. Flaherty, "then and there", to marry him to Miss Dunlap.* I did say, that if they wished to get married the bands should be published on Sunday and then the matter could be attended to. This I said good humoredly—never thinking that anything serious was to follow. But as the parties could not brook the "law's delay," I was suddenly sobt (for I was told to go) to jail. Indeed, when coming here on my mission of charity I did not anticipate such distinguished attention. The "phunniest" part of the joke—if, indeed, any thing connected with the matter in question can be called funny, was your allusion to the *fee*—which you fix at an "X" or a "V." For your information, permit me to say, that there was no *fee*-ling manifested for the officiating minister—owing, I have no doubt, to the embarrassment of the young couple, before such a respectable and admiring assemblage as was present on the interesting occasion. The only compensation I asked, or received, was "what the Connaught man shot at." Any of your Irish readers can tell you what that is.

Very truly yours,
P. DILLON, S. S. C.

City Mortality.

The number of deaths in this city, from May 10d to May 18th, as reported by Dr. A. G. McCandless, physician to the Board of Health, is as follows:

Males.....9 | Adults.....4 | Total.....11
Females.....2 | Children...7 |

The diseases were—Consumption, 2; abuses of the lung, 1; railroad accident, 1; meningitis, 2; still-born, 1; unknown, 1; typhoid fever, 1; laryngitis, 1; inflammation of the lungs, 1.

A DISINFECTING LAMP.—Fill a camphene lamp with cholric ether and light the wick. In a few minutes the object will be accomplished. One tube is sufficient. To find Carnaghan's clothing store, go up Federal street, and stop a few doors before reaching the Diamond. You will there find him in daily receipt of new goods of the choicest variety for gentlemen and boys wear. Our country friends will find an assortment at this store that cannot fail to suit all tastes.

LAST TIME OF FANCHON.—We are assured that the beautiful drama of "Fanchon," or the "Witch Grand Daughter," cannot be repeated after to-night at the theatre, as tomorrow evening, Cecile Rush has a benefit, and Saturday concludes her engagement. All who have not seen Miss Rush in this interesting drama should, therefore, be on hand to-night. On Monday next, Hovley and Campbell's minstrels commence a series of performances.

ELEGANT PRESENTS.—Nothing could be more appropriate for a present to a mother or wife than a set of silver plate, a coffee urn, a soup tureen, a castor, or any of the thousand and one things to be sold this afternoon and evening at McClelland's auction.

PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS are all the rage now, and the place to buy them, in rich Turkey morocco and velvet bindings, at very low prices, is at the Masonic Hall Auction House, 55 Fifth street. They have received a new and splendid assortment by express to-day.

DROWNED.—On Thursday last, a little son of D. Rankin, of Grapeville, Westmoreland county, was drowned in Brush creek, while bathing.

REV. B. L. AGNEW, of Johnstown, has resigned his position as Chaplain of the 76th Pennsylvania Regiment.

FROM YESTERDAY'S EVENING GAZETTE.

Sudden Death--Inquest.

Coroner McClung, to-day, held an inquest upon the body of a German named Philip Kreis, who died on Tuesday evening, at the house of a dairyman named Pebolt, residing in Shaler township. Kreis had been employed by Pebolt, and was found in the stable, about five o'clock in the evening, doubled over a pile of straw, and evidently suffering from cramp. His limbs were drawn up, and his hands tightly compressed upon the stomach, in which condition he died in a few minutes. The deceased was a married man, but had parted from his wife, who is now in Cincinnati. He had his trunk and papers at Auth's beer hall, on Smithfield street, in this city, and it is said that he has about $800 deposited here, but with whom is not known, as his papers are all in his trunk, which has not yet been examined.

DEATH OF A PITTSBURGHER.—Robert Criswell, of this city, (son of a former engineer at the jail,) who left here on the steamer Colonel Stell, for New Orleans, before the rebellion broke out, and who was unable after that event to return home, died on the above boat, upon the Texas river, two or three weeks ago. His mother received news of her son's death since the capture of New Orleans.

DEATH OF AN ALLEGHENIAN.—Mayor Drum yesterday received a telegraphic dispatch, from Philadelphia, announcing the death of Joseph Miller, of Co. F, 102d regiment, from wounds received at the battle of Williamsburg. The parents of the deceased reside in Allegheny, and his body will be brought here for interment.

TO LET.—A well-finished two story brick dwelling, with 8 rooms and a large yard No. 85, Wylie street. Inquire of *Dr. Sterrett*, 271, Penn street.

General Couch Compliments His Division.

We have received a copy a General Order issued by Brigadier General Couch, after the battle of Williamsburg, in which he thanks his division for the heroism and courage which they displayed. It will be seen that the 102d regiment, Colonel Thos. A. Rowley, of this county, is among those specially mentioned as in the advance, and as rendering very efficient service:

HEADQUARTERS COUCH'S DIVISION,
Camp near New Kent C. H., Va., May 14, 1862.

GENERAL ORDER No. 37.—The Brigadier General Commanding desires to express his thanks to the division for the heroic courage and fortitude displayed by them at the battle of Williamsburg, Va., on the 5th inst.

General Peck, with his Brigade, consisting of the 62d New York, 93d and 102d Pennsylvania, 50th New York, and 98th Pennsylvania, had the good fortune to be in advance, and arriving on the battle ground at a critical time, won a reputation greatly to be envied.

General Davies, with his Brigade, hurried forward. The 2d Rhode Island and the 7th Massachusetts were pushed to support General Peck at a trying period of the fight, and were faithful to their trust. The 10th Massachusetts was sent to the right to support Gen. Hancock, and did good service. The General Commanding deeply regrets the absence at Warwick of the 38th New York.

Graham's Brigade came up too late to share in the glory of the fight, but not too late to assure the Division General that they were ready for any duty which soldiers could be asked to perform.

Friends! we have gained the confidence of our country. Let us in future battles, as in the last, show that we can face our rebel foes, and whip them, too.

By order of Brig. Gen. COUCH.
[Signed,] FRANCIS A. WALKER, A. A. G.

Grand Encampment, I. O. O. F.

The annual session of the Grand Encampment of Pennsylvania, I. O. O. F., was held in Philadelphia, on Monday—M. W. Grand Patriarch Wm. F. Rackliff, presiding, with a fair representation of members throughout the State.

New members were admitted, reports read and referred, and the elections for officers opened, and the following declared elected: M. W. G. Patriarch, John Able, of No. 6; M. E. G. H. Priest, Edmund Brewer, of No. 26; R. W. G. S. Warden, Joseph Bowbotham, of No. 9; R. W. G. J. Warden, John B. Springer, of No. 38; R. W. G. Scribe, William Curtis, of No. 17; R. W. G. Treasurer, Henry Simons, of No. 62; R. W. G. Rep. G. L. U. S. William H. Hopkins, of No. 64; W. L. Sentinel, William P. Taylor, of No. 5; W. O. Sentinel, George C. Hoster, of No. 47; who will be installed at an adjourned session, to be held on Thursday afternoon next, at 6 o'clock.

From the report of the Grand Scribe, the following statistics are copied: Number of Encampments, 86; members initiated, 101; persons rejected, 1; admitted by card, 9; withdrawn by card, 36; reinstatements, 28; suspensions, 367; expulsions, 4; deaths, 39; Past Chief Patriarchs, 1,213; contributing Patriarchs, 4,648; number of Patriarchs relieved, 642; number of widowed families relieved, 38; number of Patriarchs buried, 33. Amount paid for relief of Patriarchs, $9,536 30; do. widowed families, $543 50; do. for burying the dead, $1,809; total amount paid for relief, $11,888 80; do. collected during the year, $20,156 92.

IN THE CITY.—Rev. R. Audley Browne, Chaplain of the Roundhead Regiment, by leasure, in service at Port Royal, is now in this city. He has been on a visit to his friends in Lawrence county, and he comes here to attend the session of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE U. P. CHURCH.—This large and influential body convenes this evening, in Dr. James Prestley's church, Sixth street, to be opened with a sermon by the Moderator of the last Assembly. The business of the session will commence tomorrow.

FOR EUROPE.—Henry Kleber, Esq., the well known musician, of this city, leaves today for New York, where he will take a steamer for Europe. We wish him a pleasant tour and a safe return.

IN THE CITY.—Captain Robert Chester, of the Seventeenth United States Infantry is at present in the city on a short visit. He is stationed at Buffalo, recruiting.

HOUSE BURNED.—The dwelling house of Mr. O. H. Sewell, of Lackawannock township, Mercer county, was totally destroyed by fire on Monday last.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

THIS COMMUNITY is decidedly opposed to counterfeit or "improved" medicines. McLane's and Dr. A. Fahnestock's Vermifuges have both been counterfeited and "improved." The result has been that the spurious trash is now scarcely heard of, whilst their stupid originators are the fit subjects of honest contempt. And so it is with Lindsey's Celebrated Blood Searcher, the public will have nothing to do with the bogus when they can procure the genuine from all solvent druggists, or from the sole agent, Simon Johnston, corner Smithfield and Fourth streets.

FASHIONABLE CLOTHIERS.—Messrs. Wm. H. McGee & Co., corner of Federal street and Diamond square, Allegheny, have truly earned the name of fashionable clothiers. Their supply of Spring and Summer goods are of the latest styles. All their clothing is made up under their own direction, and is warranted to their customers. Prices they are bound not to be undersold by any other establishment. Give them a call and judge for yourself. We guarantee for you a good reception.

REMOVED.—Samuel Graham, Merchant Tailor, has removed to No. 54 Market street, one door from Third street, and has just received his second supply of Spring and Summer Goods, consisting of the latest styles of cloths, cassimeres and vestings, selected from the latest importations. Gentlemen desiring their clothing made up to fit them, and at 20 per cent. less than at any other Merchant Tailor store in the city, would do well to give him an early call, as his motto is "quick sales and small profits."

THE largest assortment of new Spring and Summer dress goods, silks, shawls, mantillas and sacques ever exhibited in this city, and by far the most varied and cheapest, too, is now on exhibition at the great store of Rocker & Co., No. 59 Market street. Reader, don't you buy anything in the dry goods line before visiting this store, unless you are indifferent as to getting the most desirable and the cheapest goods.

BEAUTIFUL PLATED WARE AT AUCTION.—Our readers should not fail to attend the large sale at McClelland's Auction Rooms, of elegant silver plated ware, comprising tea sets, castors, card, fruit and cake baskets, goblets, cups, spoons; in fact everything in the above line. The stock is direct from the manufacturer, and must be sold. Sale on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock. The goods will be open for inspection in the morning.

TO ARMS!—The citizen soldier will find a more deadly foe in the brackish muddy water, and a cheap and simple remedy in Holloways Pills so most determined enemy. Neither the stomach nor the bowels of the soldiers can endure these hardships and still be strong, healthy. Only 25 cents per box. 239.

LADIES will bear in mind the peremptory sale of Sewing Machines, to take place at the Auction House of E. W. Lynd, corner Wood street and Virgin alley, on Friday next, May 23d, at 2 o'clock. For particulars, read advertisement in another column.

GREAT BARGAINS in Carpets, Oil Cloths, Door Mats, &c. J. Finch, corner of Grant and Fifth streets, commenced this morning to close out his entire stock of the above goods, at greatly reduced prices.

A LARGE assortment of dress goods will be opened this morning, at J. Finch's, corner of Grant and Fifth street.

WM. FORREST, Carpenter and Joiner, Jobbing Shop—Virgin alley, between Smithfield street and Cherry alley. All kinds of House Repairing done on short notice and in workmanlike manner. Charges moderate. Leave your orders. All orders promptly attended to.

OMNIBUS CALLS will be taken at Hunt's Book Store, Masonic Hall, Fifth street, and at the Omnibus office, No. 405, Liberty street. Day or night, all orders left in either the two places will be promptly attended to.

DOCTOR C. BRIDE, Water Cure and Homopathic Physician, also a agent for Rainbow's celebrated Truss for Rupture. Corner of Penn and Wayne streets.

DENTISTRY.—Dr. C. Sill, No. 245 Penn st., attends to all branches of the Dental profession.

Reformed Presbyterian Synod.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

FOURTH DAY.

PRINCETON, IND., May 20, 1862.

The Synod met on Saturday morning, at 9 o'clock, and spent half an hour in devotional exercises, after which, the Special Committee on the Inquiries of Rev. A. M. Stewart, in relation to the administration of the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper to soldiers in the army, under certain circumstances, made their report. It is, in substance, as follows:

As the sealing ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper are not essential to salvation; and as the standing order of the Church requires that the sealing ordinances of God's House shall be administered to those only who are subjects of her discipline, and having regular standing in the Reformed Presbyterian Church; therefore, your Committee recommend that there be no departure from the standing order of the House of God.

This report drew forth an animated discussion, which being carried on for some time, the report was laid on the table, to be taken up at the Synod's convenience.

The Ohio Presbytery presented their report. It was referred to the Committee on Presbyterial Reports and the Committee on Discipline. The Synod then adjourned to meet on Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

On Sabbath the Synod united with the First Reformed Presbyterian Congregation of Princeton, in the observance of the Lord's Supper. The Rev. David Steele, of Philadelphia, preached in the morning, and the Rev. John Douglas, D. D., of Pittsburgh, in the evening. The members of the Synod occupied the first table, and had the elements dispensed to them by the Rev. Samuel Wylie, the oldest member present. This table was dismissed by the Moderator. Each succeeding table was addressed by two ministers. The occasion was acknowledged to be one of pleasure and profit.

FIFTH DAY.

The Synod met on Monday morning at the usual hour. An hour and a half was spent in devotional exercises, having special reference to the distracted state of the country. The Rev. John Nevin in the Chair. Patriotic addresses were delivered, suitable portions of scripture read, and appropriate prayers offered up by Revs. Dr. Douglas, Michael Harshaw, John McMaster, David Steele, &c., and by Messrs. J. C. McMillan, John Orr, and others.

The Synod resumed business, when the reports of the Superintendents and Treasurer of the Theological Seminary were presented and referred to the appropriate committees.

The Board of Education presented their report, which was accepted and referred to the Committee on the Theological Seminary. The Board doubted as to whether any systematic plan for aiding candidates for the ministry, was really advantageous to the Church, or would be supported by her. It has a tendency to induce young men, and others, to turn their attention to the ministry, who would better serve their God, the Church and the country in some other sphere of life. They recommended, that if any systematic plan should be continued by the Synod, it be committed into the hands of one of the Boards of the Theological Seminary. The report was referred to the Committee on the Seminary.

The Treasurer's report was referred to the Auditing Committee.

The Committee on Discipline presented their report in the case of the complaint of the Philadelphia against the Pittsburgh Presbytery. The Committee did not believe that any disorder or discourteousness was intended in any quarter, but the Pittsburgh should not have gone behind the record of the Philadelphia Presbytery. This being a case in which the Moderator was interested as a member of the Pittsburgh Presbytery, he requested Rev. M. Harshaw to occupy the Chair. Dr. Dougl has at once raised a point of order as to the competency of the Committee to come to a finding in the case on an *ex parte* statement of the Philadelphia Presbytery, there being no official report of the proceedings of the Pittsburgh Presbytery, and asked, that if his point was well taken, the case be dismissed. The acting Moderator was not prepared to decide. Dr. Douglas then argued the case at length on the part of the Pittsburgh Presbytery. The Rev. Mr. McAuley replied on the part of the Philadelphia Presbytery, but his speech was cut short by the arrival of the hour of adjournment.

In the afternoon the Board of Domestic Missions presented a scale of supplies for the year, which was approved and ordered to be printed in the *"Banner of the Covenant"* immediately.

The Committee on Discipline presented their report in the case of the Rev. Dr. Wilson and the Ohio Presbytery. The Committee did not believe that the charges were proved according to the requirements of ecclesiastical jurisprudence, and recommended that the case be dismissed. The report was laid on the table until the difficulty between the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia Presbyteries be issued.

This case being called up, Dr. Douglas stated that he had examined the papers during the interval, and was fully convinced that his point of order was well taken. No such resolution as that which is quoted in the report of the Committee, and upon which they based their action, was ever passed or recorded by the Pittsburgh Presbytery; it never appeared in any paper. He, therefore, asked that this point of order be decided. The acting Moderator decided that the point of order was well taken. On motion, leave was granted to the Committee to withdraw their report, and the case was dismissed.

The agent appointed to secure the endowment of the Theological Seminary, made his report and asked to be discharged. The report was approved and the request granted.

A number of queries propounded by Rev. Mr. McAuley were referred to the Committee on Discipline.

The report of the Committee on Mr. Stewart's queries was called up.

Rev. J. Alford offered the following substitute: The circumstances being extraordinary, and never likely to occur again, Synod does not deem it necessary to enact any new law in the case, leaving our chaplains to their own judgment and discretion, in view of the peculiar and unusual circumstances in which they are placed. This was amended by the addition of the words, "having strict regard to the laws of the church," and was then adopted. Adjourned. JOANNES.

Arrivals at the Principal Hotels,

UP TO 8 O'CLOCK LAST NIGHT.

MANSION HOUSE—Liberty st., near R. R. Depot. GEORGE ACKENS, PROPRIETOR.

P Norton, Connellsville
H S Adbert, Steubenville
O Brown, do
D H French,
S John,
J Bossinger, Arnah
O Lowe, Indiana co.
Wm Price, Zanesville
Miss Farres, Phila
Miss Kelly, Chicago
Jno Ryan, Johnstown
Wm Forster, Phila
Geo Williams, N Y
J S Shubrick,
B C Grier, Illinois
D M Morris, Olean
P Holmes, Phila
P Templeton, Kittanning
J Donley, Green co
P Donley, do
J Smith,
D Barder,
A B Long, Lewisburg
G A Butler,
E D Harding, 18th In
Thos Depy, Phila
Geo Plum, Westchester
A Plume,
R Hunter do lady,

HAIRE'S HOTEL—Liberty street, foot of Fifth. SAMUEL HAIRE, PROPRIETOR.

J R Weaver, Connoisburg
Jas King, Johnstown
Elias Stone, Greene co
W Watson,
I King, Snowdon tp
Anthony Bano, Wash co
E S Hack; do
J Weaver, Cagonsburg
J Cresswell,

EAGLE HOTEL—Liberty street, below Seventh. JOHN NEEL, PROPRIETOR.

J G Cochrane, Penna
J P Harvey, Fayette co
J Alexander, Greensburg
J A McGraw, Brinckley
J Dugan, Kittanning
J Co[illegible], Clarion
H B [illegible], do
Andrew [illegible]
D F Brumm, Millwood
D Frank, Brookville
J Hall, Armstrong co
Wm Duff, Darlington
P Taylor, Brookville
J Anderson, West co
J P Robinson, do

[illegible] HOTEL—No. 5 St. Clair street. [illegible] SOROCK, PROPRIETOR.

[illegible] Newell, Oil City
E Swilard, Knoxville
B Berlim, Phila
Wm Beanor, Columbiana
G Coopes, Glade Mills
H L Portney, Guilford, O
Wm M Abrams, Oil City
J H Young, Salem
H Crooks, Wash co
J Kuhns, Oil City
B McLane, Cannonsburg
W Scott, Oil City
[illegible] Briggs, do
Dan[illegible]h, Candor
D Sim[illegible], Harlansburg
J Brant, Franklin
Robt Black, do

NATIONAL HOTEL—No. 157 Water [illegible] street. [illegible], PROPRIETOR.

E Malone, Port Royal
S Mitscell, Luxerne co
J S Williams, Scranton
C W McClain, Ohio
M Wiencitz, Greenfield
J Livingston,
W S Hamilton, Ohio
W P Rea, do
J Britton, Beaver co
J S Shopler, Rochester
H W Oliver, do
T W Elliot, New Bright'n
A W Canfield, Coal Bluff
H Pierpont, N Haven
M Henry,
J Shallenberger,

From the Mountain Department.

FRANKLIN, VA., May 20.—News was received here last night of an engagement between a band of guerrillas, under Capt. Dembaugh, and a detachment of the 3d Maryland, under Lieut. Col. Downy. It occurred between Petersburg and Moorefield. The rebel Captain and three of his men were killed, four wounded and twelve taken prisoners. We did not suffer any loss. This breaks up the band.

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

PROPOSAL TO CHARTER THE GREAT EASTERN.

One Hundred Million of Treasury Notes Out.

EXPECTED CALL FOR 100,000 MORE VOLUNTEERS.

ONLY 500,000 NOW IN THE FIELD.

Border State Men Opposed to the President's Proclamation.

REPUBLICANS APPROVE OF IT.

A POLICY BEFORE TAXATION.

&c., &c., &c.

[Special Dispatch to the Gazette.]

PHILADELPHIA, May 21.—It is said some humane gentlemen have proposed to Secretary Welles to charter the Great Eastern for a floating hospital, and have her anchored at Fortress Monroe.

The policy of the Treasury Department is to get in all outstanding claims bearing interest, and fund them. In their place demand notes to the extent of the public wants for currency purposes will be issued. One hundred millions of dollars of these are now out, and there is authority for issuing sixty millions dollars more. Authority to issue further sums will doubtless be given by Congress, and of these, it is supposed, there will be notes of denominations of less than five dollars.

It seems to be the impression that, as soon as the Senate disposes of the Confiscation bill, the House Pacific Railroad measure will be considered, and passed without doubt, after which the Tax bill will be taken up, debated and amended, and finally passed.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press*, writing from London, under date of May 5th, says: "Let England and France hear of one decided Union success, such as the capture of Memphis, of New Orleans, Savannah, Charleston, Richmond, Yorktown, or even of Norfolk, and not a word in favor of intervention will be said."

The New York *Tribune's* correspondent says that a call is soon to be made upon the States for additional volunteers, to the number of one hundred thousand at least. Careful inquiry has elicited the fact that our army is smaller than has been represented in even official documents—numbering not five hundred thousand effective men.

The fresh force is to be mainly used as a reserve, to be stationed at convenient points to meet emergencies.

Colonel Corcoran's friends expect him in Washington in the course of the present week.

The men who find most fault with the President's proclamation are those members of Congress from the border States who are inimical to any plan of emancipation. They complain that it is a solemn warning, given a second time, to them to sell out now or take the consequences, to choose between being paid some part of the value of their slaves now, or being deprived of them suddenly and without remuneration. They are glad to have Gen. Hunter's order abrogated, but cannot see why the discourse to their constituents was added.

Republicans welcome the proclamation as an earnest of good things to come, they hope speedily.

Senator Grimes, in the course of the running debate with which the Senate refreshed itself after three hours of Garrett Davis, said that he would not vote to take up the Tax bill, until the administration announced a definite policy, and required all its Generals, the author of order No. three as well as the author of No. eleven, to conform to it. He would not lay heavy burdens of taxation upon the backs of his constituents until he knew for what purpose, and to what end the war was to be carried on.

Hon. Edward Stanley has made arrangements to leave Washington during the present week for North Carolina.

Capt. Robert Ritchie is ordered to take charge of the property belonging to the United States at the Norfolk Navy Yard. Two hundred marines have been detailed to guard it, and a large colored force to remove it. The Norfolk Navy Yard has passed into history. It will never be reconstructed. D.

The Object of Mr. Mercier's Visit to Richmond.

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Permission has been given to state the facts in regard to the French minister's visit to Richmond which has excited so much attention in this country and in Europe.

Mr. Mercier had no instructions from his government, nor had it the least knowledge of his intention to go to Richmond. Mr. Mercier, in a conversation with Mr. Seward, expressed his regret that he could not see Richmond and judge for himself about the views and expectations of the insurgents.

Mr. Seward said he could go without any objection from the Government; that he wished every foreign minister would go and see for himself how hopeless the insurrection was.

Mr. Mercier went, unofficially. He heard and saw for himself, of course in no way acting or speaking for his government or compromising his relations towards the United States. The President was previously consulted and approved of his going. When he returned he called immediately on the Secretary and afterwards upon the President, and communicated to them frankly the impressions that he received.

He allowed no one in Richmond to say anything to him that he should not be at liberty to communicate to the Secretary of State, and he neither communicated to the rebel leaders anything from this government, nor anything from them to the government. He held no official communication with any one, nor did he permit himself to receive official attentions. Mr. Mercier's whole conduct in the transaction was discreet, loyal and friendly.

Exchange of Prisoners--Reported Evacuation of Fort Wright.

CAIRO, May 21.—An arrival from the fleet on Monday says that a flag of truce went around Craig Head point for the purpose of exchanging some released prisoners, in accordance with an arrangement made some weeks ago. After waiting some hours, they returned without being met by the rebels. Late in the afternoon one of their boats came up and effected the exchange.

It is believed among the officers that the rebels have evacuated Fort Wright, and fallen back on Fort Randolph, as no rebel gun boats could be seen around the point. A reconnoissance in force was sent down by Commodore Davis, to ascertain the position of the enemy, but had not returned when the boat left.

Appeal for Hospital Supplies.

PHILADELPHIA, May 21.—The *Bulletin* contains the following appeal, received by telegraph to-day, dated Fortress Monroe, May 21:

Call upon the farmers of the North for supplies of butter and eggs, to be sent here in the care of Drs. Hunt and McCoy, of the Chesapeake and Mill Creek hospitals. Sponges, oilled silk rags, bandages, lint and dried fruit, are also urgently needed. In the name of our suffering soldiers, I make this appeal.

[Signed] MRS. JOHN HARRIS, Sec'y.

This appeal will doubtless be promptly responded to by the farmers of Pennsylvania.

Destructive Tornado in Wheeling.

WHEELING, May 21.—A destructive tornado at two o'clock this afternoon, uprooted and demolished the Lutheran Church, occupied as a school house, killing three and wounding six of the scholars. It also blew down the steeple and partially uncovered the St. John's Episcopal Church. The same tornado demolished the upper works steamer Warrior, bound down with troops. The Captain, mate and pilot of the boat were somewhat injured. No lives were lost. The hull and cargo were saved.

TWENTIETH CONGRESS--FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, May 21, 1862.

HOUSE.—Mr. Sedgwick, of N. Y., introduced a bill providing for the raising of certain sunken vessels of war in Hampton Roads. Referred.

Mr. Ancona, of Pa., offered a resolution that, the Senate concurring, the House of Representatives adjourn on Wednesday next until the 2d of June.

On motion of Mr. Rollins, of N. H., the resolution was laid on the table—yeas, 78; nays, 46.

The Senate bill removing all disqualifications of color in carrying the mails was tabled—yeas, 85; Nays, 45.

The Associated Press dispatch of to-day, from Tunstall's Station, was read in the House. It was listened to with marked attention.

The House resumed the consideration of the Confiscation bill.

Mr. Voorhees, of Indiana, reviewed the financial policy, which has governed the administration since it came into power, characterising it as unsound, unwise, and ruinous. The criminals who have been plundering the Treasury have not been brought to justice, nor has honesty pervaded the Departments. History will, on this subject, cause every lover of his country to bow his head, while his cheek burns with shame because of the extravagance and shamelessness of expenditures at a time when the nation was struggling for life. By means of mismanagement and fraud the public debt for the year hence will be one-sixth of the entire wealth of this country. Now, the proportion to every voter is two hundred dollars. Twelve months from this time it will be four hundred dollars. Where was the evidence that any other people had been so burdened within so short a time. In conclusion, he expressed the hope, and predicted that the people would rise in their might and send hither representatives who will be governed by the teachings of the bible and the constitution, and that the Union will be re-established on the principles of justice and christianity.

Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, controverted Mr. Voorhees figures as to expenditures.

Mr. Kelly was severe upon Mr. Voorhees, and accused him of sympathizing with traitors, saying that Floyd, Cobb, and others, were thieves under the gentleman's own party administration. The present condition of the country was the natural result of the treatment of the people received at the hands of the Democratic party. It made our country the plunderer of nations, provided they were feeble. Fillibustering became identified with Democracy during the two last administrations. Considering all their corruptions, it did not lie in the mouth of those seeking to resuscitate the Democratic party to reproach the present administration with dishonesty and fraud. In further reply, Mr. Kelly said the labor of the country will pay the taxes. Stephen A. Douglas truly said there could be only two parties in the war—loyal men and traitors. A man must be for or against the Government.

Mr. Lansing, of New York, advocated the passage of the Confiscation bill.

Mr. Mallory, of Kentucky, believed that, at the present juncture of public affairs, it would be inexpedient to adopt any act of confiscation or forfeiture of the estates of the rebels engaged in this wicked and unprovoked rebellion, with which it was known he had no sympathy.

Mr. Mallory concluded his remarks, when the House adjourned.

SENATE.—The Chair presented a communication from the Department of the Interior, transmitting the Census Report.

Mr. Trumbull, of Ill., moved that 100,000 copies be printed. Referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Grimes, of Iowa, presented the petition of the widow of General Charles F. Smith, asking a pension.

Mr. Ten Eyck, of N. J., presented the memorial of the yearly meeting of Friends at Philadelphia.

Several petitions were presented for a Bankrupt act.

Mr. Grimes, from the Naval Committee, reported a joint resolution giving the thanks of Congress to Capt. D. G. Farragut and the officers and men under his command. Passed.

Mr. Fessenden, from the Committee on Finance, reported back the bill amendatory of the Post Office appropriation. Passed.

Mr. Wright, of Ind., offered a resolution that the Military Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reporting at an early day, a bill providing a suitable bounty for the soldiers enlisted for three months and one year; also, for pensions for the widows of soldiers who die in the service. Adopted.

The bill donating lands for the benefit of agricultural colleges and mechanic arts was taken up.

The discussion was continued till one o'clock, when the special order, being the Confiscation bill, was taken up.

Mr. Fessenden moved to take up the Tax bill.

Mr. Foster, of Conn., by consent, offered a resolution in regard to the impeachment of West H. Humphreys; that the Senate bill, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of Impeachment in the case of West H. Humphreys, and the Vice President shall administer the following oath to the Senate: I solemnly swear that in all cases pertaining to the trial and impeachment of West H. Humphreys, late Judge of the United States, for the several Districts of Tennessee, that I will do impartial justice as a Court of law, and the Court being thus formed, will receive the managers from the House, &c. Adopted.

The Senate took up the Tax bill instead of the Confiscation bill by a vote of 35 yeas to 9 nays.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the amendments of the Committee on Finance, several of which were adopted, including one reducing the salary of the Commissioner from five thousand dollars to three thousand five hundred dollars.

The Senate went into executive session and then adjourned.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Dispatches received at the War Department, up to 10 p. m., from Gens. McDowell and Banks, report all quiet in their departments.

Hon. Joseph Segar, of the House of Representatives, has just returned from Norfolk, bringing with him his family, who had been there for the last twelve months, and unable before now to come away.

Among the prisoners taken were Baker, engineer; Stockwell, Paymaster; the Surgeon of the ship Deford, the signal officer, detailed from the army; Thomas Green, coxwain; J. S. Wallace and Frank Cousin, seamen, and several others.

Lieut. Preston who brought the dispatches for Gen. Wool from the rebel authorities, on the next day stated that the prisoners had been sent to Salisbury, N. C. The purport of the communication which is in relation to the officers held as prisoners at Richmond, has not transpired.

Much interest was excited in a case before the Commissioners, under the fugitive slave law, to-day—Charles H. Hill, of Maryland, claiming a man named Stephen as his slave, Bradley and Carlisle for claimant, and Mr. Dean, of Brooklyn, for Stephen. Mr. Dean submitted the points, first, as to whether the Commissioners will exercise their discretion in allowing a cross-examination of claimant's witnesses. The magistrate is bound to exercise a sound discretion in the mode of ascertaining the facts, and that both elementary and decided law were uniform in exacting from the magistrate the exercise of such discretion.

The argument took a wide range.

The spectators were principally composed of persons from Maryland, who were here for the purpose of recovering their fugitive slaves.

The Commissioners, Walter S. Cox, Samuel L. Phillips, Charles N. Mathew, reserved their decision till to-morrow.

From Gen. M'Clellan's Headquarters.

WASHINGTON, May 21.—The following dispatch was received from General M'Clellan's headquarters, dated May 21st, 8 P. M.:

Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:—I have just returned from Bottoms bridge and examined the country on the other side. The reconnoissance was on the heels of the enemy, who probably did not like the skirmish of yesterday. The bridge will be repaired by to-morrow morning, and others constructed. All the corps here advanced to-day.

(Signed) G. B. M'CLELLAN,
Major General Commanding.

Loss of Macons, Stores and Mules.

ROME, Ga., May 21.—A train of 17 wagons, laden with government stores, which left here on Monday, was overtaken to-day when about twenty miles out on the Springfield road by a band of rebel guerrillas, who burned the wagons and contents, and carried off the mules, 85 in number.

From Newbern, N. C.

NEW YORK, May 21.—The steamer Hale, from Newbern, North Carolina, arrived in three days' passage. She brings no news.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

Arrival of the Scotia.

NEW YORK, May 21.—The steamship Scotia, from Liverpool, on the 10th instant, arrived at this port, at 1 o'clock this morning.

Her advices are three days later than those furnished by the arrival of the steamer Great Eastern.

The United States frigate Constellation, and gunboat Tuscarora were at Alegairas on the 4th.

The gunboat Ino was at Cadiz on the 28th. The Sumter remained at Gibraltar.

GENERAL NEWS.—In the House of Commons, Mr. Layard stated, in response to an inquiry, that as far as the British Government knew, M. Mercier's visit to Richmond was without instructions from France, and was attended with no political result whatever.

The Paris correspondent of the new Confederate organ—the *Index*—published in London, asserts that M. Mercier was certainly under instructions to ascertain certain points, and will report in person to the Emperor.

The *Independence Belge* asserts that the object of M. Lavalette's recent visit to London was to induce England to consent to a common intervention respecting the state of affairs in America, and that England had agreed to join in it on condition that the Roman question was first settled. Also, that the French Government gave ear to this proposition, and it has led to a conference relative to the intervention.

A debate took place relative to the distress in Lancashire, in which it was severally argued that the poor law regulations at present were amply sufficient, together with the means supplied by private charity, to meet the wants of the sufferers.

Mr. Bright deprecated the hasty statements made as to the termination of the war and discontinuance of the blockade by the Ministers, as most disastrous to commerce in Lancashire. He said the Earl Russell's late statement, that he hoped in a few months the Northern States would allow the independence of the South, had paralyzed business in Lancashire for a time, and showed how little he knew of the sentiments of the North. Such statements were highly culpable, and a breach of neutrality on the part of the Foreign Secretary.

The rumors of an approaching solution to the Roman question were more and more general. It was reported that the Papal Government had prepared for a sudden departure. The ex-King of Naples had left Rome. His destination was unknown.

The continental news are unimportant.

LIVERPOOL, May 9.—*Cotton Market*—The sales of Cotton for the week amount to 27,500 bales, including 2,500 bales to speculators and 5,500 bales to exporters. The market has been irregular and prices have declined ¼ @⅛d.

Breadstuff Market—Messrs. Richardson, Spence & Co., Bigland, Athya & Co. and other authorities report Flour with a declining tendency, and small sales. Wheat dull, at nominal prices. Corn quiet, 27s@28s for mixed.

Provision Market—Beef is dull. Pork heavy. Bacon still declining, prices are 1